additional amount associated with this response, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0573.

Please amend the application, without prejudice, as follows.

In the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows.

Replace the paragraph on pg. 54, lns. 2-12 with the following paragraph:

--The cytoprotective activity of the same styryl benzylsulfones was determined as follows. Normal human HFL-1 cells were plated at a cell density of 1.0×10^5 cells per well in six culture plates. Styryl benzylsulfone was added 24 hours later at a final concentration of either 2.0 or 10 μM. The time of styryl sulfone addition was designated as time zero. Paclitaxel (250 nM) was added at either time zero, or 24 hours after time zero. The total number of viable cells was determined, as described above, after 96 hours of paclitaxel treatment. A compound was deemed to be active if the number of viable cells following the combination treatment was higher than the number of cells after treatment with paclitaxel alone. The data are set forth in Table 7.--

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 8-11 without prejudice, to the filing of a divisional application.

Please rewrite claims 1 and 18 to read as follows:

1. (once amended) A method for protecting an animal from cytotoxic side effects of the administration of a mitotic phase cell cycle inhibitor or a topoisomerase inhibitor comprising administering to the animal, in advance of administration of said inhibitor, an effective amount of at least one cytoprotective α,β unsaturated aryl sulfone compound, wherein the mitotic phase cell cycle inhibitor and topoisomerase inhibitor are other than an α,β unsaturated aryl sulfone compound.